

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00263 171323Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /014 W
-----171430Z 065516 /43
R 171300Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4561

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, APER, UN
SUBJECT: CHANGES IN THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

REF: (A) USUN 6347; (B) GENEVA 10013

1. WHAT WITH HOLIDAYS, SKI VACATIONS AND OFFICIAL TRAVEL WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO GATHER ENOUGH INFORMATION TO REPLY TO REF (A) UNTIL JUST NOW. WE HAVE FINALLY CAUGHT BOURBONNIERE ON THE PHONE BETWEEN RETURN FROM LEAVE AND DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW.

2. TO SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION IN REF (B), BOURBONNIERE TOLD US HE IS GOING TO MOSCOW ON INVITATION OF HELSINKI-BASED WORLD PEACE COUNCIL WHICH IS HOLDING A WORLD CONGRESS IN SOVIET CAPITAL. HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO REPRESENT AKATANI AT CONGRESS, BUT HAS BEEN RELIEVED OF THAT RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE NOW WALDHEIM IS SENDING AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

3. BOURBONNIERE DENIED STOUTLY HE IS GONG TO MOSCOW TO RECRUIT A SOVIET CANDIDATE T SUCCEED MICHAEL CLARK AS CHIEF OF OPI GENEVA. IN FACT, HE SAID, THE SOVIETS HAVE NEVER TALKED TO HIM ABOUT WANTING TO FILL THAT JOB. BUT THEY HAVE BEEN AFTER HIM BECAUSE WHILE THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH THE NUMBER OF SOVIETS IN GENEVA OPI -- THEY CLAIM THEY STILL HAVEN'T REACHED THEIR QUOTA IN U.M. INFORMATION SYSTEM WORLDWIDE.

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4. COMMENT. OBVIOUSLY, BOURBONNIERE, ON ONE HAND, AND BAUMGARTEN AND GREGOIRE (REF B), ON THE OTHER, CANNOT ALL BE TELLING THE TRUTH. WE ARE IN NO POSITION TO DECIDE WHO IS AND WHO ISN'T, BUT WE WOULD NOTE AGAIN THAT THERE IS MUCH BAD BLOOD BETWEEN OUR PREVIOUS INFORMANTS AND BOURBONNIERE. END COMMENT.

5. BOURBONNIERE ALSO TOLD US THAT OPI NEW YORK IS PLANNING TO MOVE AN AMERICAN WITHIN THE SYSTEM FROM NEW YORK TO GENEVA TO TAKE CLARK'S JOB. THIS MOVE, HE SAID, WOULD BE LINKED TO A REDUCTION IN AMERICAN INFORMATION POSITIONS WORLDWIDE. HE OFFERED TO EXPLAIN FURTHER ON PHONE, BUT SAID IT WAS SO COMPLICATED IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO WAIT FOR FACE-TO-FACE MEETING AFTER HIS RETURN JANUARY 22. IN ANY EVENT, HE ASSURED US THERE WAS NO URGENCY BECAUSE NOTHING FURTHER WOULD HAPPEN ON THIS MATTER IN NEAR FUTURE.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO USUN CAN GARNER. CATTO

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